

**Policy**

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to be graduated from the River Edge School District, a student must:

- A. Meet both state and district proficiency standards in the core curriculum content areas;
- B. Complete successfully any course requirements stated in the administrative code, unless those of the district are greater, in which case the district's standard must be met. The proficiencies required must include the New Jersey Student Learning Standards approved by the State Board of Education;

Successful completion means that the student has demonstrated the degree of proficiency required by the district to indicate achievement of the district goals for the particular course, and has attended the required number of course sessions.

Transfer students must meet all state and local requirements in order to graduate.

The superintendent shall put into effect the procedures necessary to assess each student upon entry into the system, and, annually thereafter, to identify those students not meeting the state or district proficiency requirements. He/she shall develop the programs necessary to remedy these deficiencies at the lowest possible grade level.

Remediation and Basic Skills

Students who do not pass the New Jersey Department of Education approved statewide proficiency assessment, the elementary assessment component for grades three through five and the middle school components for grade six shall be provided appropriate remediation.

English Language Learners

English language learners must be provided with the program opportunities required by law.

Special Education Students

By June 30 of a disabled student's last year in the elementary program, the student's case manager, parent/guardian and teacher(s) shall meet to review the instructional guide and basic plan of the student's IEP in view of the transition to the secondary program. Input from appropriate staff from the secondary school shall be part of the review.

The basic plan of the IEP for the student exiting the elementary program will address all the elements required in the administrative code. The description of the educational program will include exemptions, if any, from regular education program options or state and local graduation requirements including the Department of Education approved statewide high school proficiency assessment, along with the rationale for the exemptions. The exemptions must be approved in writing by the superintendent.

Proficiency

The subject matter and standards of proficiency shall be articulated with the district's elementary schools and with sending elementary districts.

Additional Requirements

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

In addition to academic graduation requirements, each student must satisfy all outstanding school obligations including, but not limited to, return of all school property, payment of all fines and completion of records. While no student shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, he/she may not participate in the graduation ceremony when personal conduct so warrants. An exclusion from the graduation ceremony shall be regarded as a school suspension and shall be subject to the same due process procedures and guarantees.

No student will be denied the right to graduate or participate in graduation exercises without the superintendent's expressed approval. The student and his/her parents/guardians shall be notified prior to being excluded from the graduation ceremony.

Adopted: January 7, 2004  
 NJSBA Review/Update: September 2017  
 Readopted: September 26, 2018

Key Words

High School Graduation, Early Warning Test, Graduation, Graduation Requirements, Option 2

<b><u>Legal References:</u></b>	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:4-25	Prescribing minimum courses of study for public schools; approval of courses of study
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-1	Commissioner of education to develop a program of standards and guidelines
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-2	Boards of education; establishment of standards
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-4.1	Operation Recognition; purpose; eligibility; application procedure
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-5.1	Boards of education prohibited from excluding students from graduation ceremony or from obtaining yearbook for inability to pay fees
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7F-46	Review, update of the NJSLs, Educational Adequacy Report
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:33-1	District to furnish suitable facilities; adoption of courses of study
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Curriculum and courses
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-14.9	Student promotion and remediation; policies and procedures
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-17	Credit of seniors in active military and naval service, etc.
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Standards and Assessment
	<u>See particularly:</u>	
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-1.2,-2.1,-3.1,-3.3,-4.1,-4.2,-4.3,-5.1,-5.2	
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:13-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Programs and practices to support student achievement
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-3.7	Individualized education program
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-4.11	Graduation
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:15-1.11	Graduation requirements for English Language Learners
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:20-2.4	Graduation (adult education programs)
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23A-9.5	Commissioner to ensure achievement of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:33-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	School turnaround and improvement

The Department of Education Website, <http://www.nj.gov/njded/assessment/> (Lists the state assessment components)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Pub.L. 114-95, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

**Possible**

<b><u>Cross References:</u></b>	*1120	Board of education meetings
	*5113	Attendance, absences and excuses
	*5120	Assessment of individual needs
	*5127	Commencement activities
	6000	Concepts and roles in instruction
	*6010	Goals and objectives
	*6122	Articulation
	*6140	Curriculum adoption
	6141.4	Independent study
	*6142	Subject fields
	*6142.2	English as a second language; bilingual/bicultural
	*6142.6	Basic skills
	*6145	Extracurricular activities
	*6147	Standards of proficiency
	*6154	Homework/makeup work
	*6171.4	Special education
	*6200	Adult/community education

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.